UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/953
S/22214
11 February 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 153
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 11 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I am transmitting to you the text of the statement made by Dr. Beder Al-Yakoub, Minister of Information and Minister of State for National Council Affairs, by way of commentary on the address delivered by His Majesty King Hussein, ruler of Jordan, on 6 February 1991.

I should be grateful if you would kindly have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

READEX FICHE

ANNEX

Statement made by the Minister of Information and Minister of State for National Council Affairs on 6 February 1991

Commenting on the address delivered by His Majesty King Hussein on 6 February 1991, in which he referred to the ongoing military operations to liberate Kuwait, the Kuwaiti Minister of Information and Minister of State for National Council Affairs, Dr. Beder Jassim Al-Yakoub, declared:

"It is painful and distressing that this address came at a crucial stage in our history and that, instead of advising the Iraqi regime to do the right thing, to listen to the voice of reason and to abide by international law, it attempted to conceal the true reasons underlying the war of liberation: the Iraqi regime's occupation of the State of Kuwait and the agony and pain that the Iraqi occupation authorities are continuing to inflict on the Kuwaiti people.

The speech seems to have been an attempt to make the world believe, wrongly, that the goal of the military operations carried out by the multinational forces is the destruction of Iraq. It ignored the fact that these operations are entirely in accordance with international law and based on United Nations resolutions, particularly resolution 678 (1990). The goal of these military operations is the liberation of Kuwait. There is no other goal.

Moreover, these operations were undertaken only after the international community and all its bodies, institutions and officials had exhausted the peaceful methods to persuade the Iraqi regime to abide by international law and withdraw unconditionally from all Kuwaiti territory, so that legitimacy could be restored.

If truth be told, these legitimate military operations are a diligent attempt to put an end to the war launched against the State of Kuwait by the Iraqi regime on 2 August 1990. These operations constitute an endeavour to bring peace to our region of the world through the use of force, after the Iraqi regime turned down all other peaceful solutions.

Kuwait has the right to ask why His Majesty King Hussein remained silent when the Iraqi army displaced the people of Kuwait at dawn on 2 August; why did King Hussein remain silent in the face of the shameful acts of murder, torture and dishonour to which all sections of the Kuwaiti people were subjected, and are still being subjected; why did King Hussein remain silent when young Kuwaiti children, fleeing from the brutality of the Iraqi army of occupation, breathed their last in the heat of the desert, after losing their way, on 2 August.

Nobody wants to hurt the Iraqi people or destroy Iraq, but justice and right must prevail. Those who decry the fate of Iraq should recall the ongoing bitter sufferings of the Kuwaiti people before and after 17 January and they should be calling on the Iraqi forces, with the utmost sincerity, to withdraw from Kuwait, so that legitimacy can be restored and so that there can be an end to this tragedy, which was brought about by the Iraqi regime.

History will have no mercy on those who try to conceal the truth and support those in the wrong, thereby helping to aggravate the situation and propel the destiny of this nation towards the brink of perdition."